

March 29, 2019

Summary of Sampling Results (through March 26, 2019)

Surface Water Sampling:

EPA is conducting surface water sampling during the ITC response. The surface water samples are collected from multiple locations in Tucker Bayou, Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto River. The surface water samples are analyzed for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), chemical oxygen demand (COD), and Oil & Grease. The results from surface water sampling are compared to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) surface water protective values. To date we have found PFAS in every surface water sample analyzed for PFAS. The surface water samples taken from the confluence of Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bayou (BB-02) have the highest concentrations of perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) at approximately 3800 ng/L. Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) concentrations found at the confluence are approximately 120 ng/L. These values are well above EPA's recommended drinking water advisory level of 70 ng/L for PFOS and PFOA. However, the advisory level is not applicable in surface waters which do not have drinking water use. In addition, the surface water samples taken from the confluence (BB-02) of Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bay on March 21, 2019, have exceeded the Texas protective values for naphthalene, benzene and total xylenes. Since March 21, 2019, the only exceedance of the PCLs is for oil and grease at surface water sample collected on Buffalo Bayou at the Battleship Texas (BB-05) on March 25, 2019.